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3 February 1969

MORNING MEETING ACTION ITEMS

TO: DD/I

Maury reported that the briefing of Senator Stennis went well but that the Senator indicated an interest in the degree to which the Agency relies on DOD data for its Vietnam reporting. The Director observed that this is a question which will probably be raised in the future and that we should perhaps prepare a "textbook" on how we utilize and evaluate data provided by the U. S. military in Vietnam.

The Director called attention to opposition to the Sentinel system and to the articles by Russell Baker and John Finney in the Sunday New York Times. He observed that, unless we handle our briefings in a well-coordinated fashion, the Agency may find itself in the position of being "the bird in the badminton game." The Director cautioned against sending to the Hill papers on these matters which might be used for political reasons and asked that we rely on oral briefings.

Action Taken - 5 February 1969:

1. OCI and OER are preparing contributions to a briefing on Agency use of DOD data on Vietnam. Contributions are due to Conger the week of 10 February.

2. The Director of Strategic Research (Bruce Clarke) has been informed of the Director's caution against sending papers on the U.S. ABM system to Congress.

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